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Agenda item 68

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Motaz M. **Zahran** (Egypt)

1. The item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 52/35 of 9 December 1997.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 September 1998, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 17 September 1998, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 63 to 79, which was held at the 3rd to 12th meetings, from 12 to 16 and from 19 to 21 October (see A/C.1/53/PV.3–12). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 14th to 21st meetings, on 23 and from 27 to 30 October and on 2 November (see A/C.1/53/PV.14–21). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 22nd to 31st meetings, from 3 to 6 and on 9, 10, 12 and 13 November (see A/C.1/53/PV.22–31).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the note by the Secretary-General on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia (A/53/209 and Add.1).

5. No proposals were submitted and no action was taken by the Committee under this item.

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